

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 03941 271441Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-07 /020 W
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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7309

UNCLAS LUSAKA 3941

FOR IOP/M

FOR IBS/PA, PASS IPS

STATE FOR AF/E AND AF/S

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

THE BLACK NATIONALIST ALLIANCE, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, CLAIMS HERE
THAT ITS FORCES AND THOSE OF RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH
WERE ENGAGED IN A TWO-HOUR EXCHANGE OF FIRE ACROSS THE ZAMBEZI
RIVER ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FRONT IS REPORTED IN THE LOCAL PRESS TO HAVE
SAID THAT THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE AT VICTORIA FALLS AND THAT HEAVY
CASUALTIES WERE INFLICTED ON THE RHODESIANS.

THE TIMES OF ZAMBIA REPORTS THAT A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ZAMBIAN
NATIONAL DEFENSE FORCES DISMISSED AS "UTTER NONSENSE" A RHODESIAN
CLAIM THAT ZAMBIAN SOLDIERS FIRED ON THEM. "WE HEARD THE FIRING
BUT IT WAS NOT BY OUR MEN," THE SPOKESMAN REPORTEDLY SAID.

THE ZAMBIAN SUPREME COURT HAS SENT JANUARY 6 AS THE DATE
WHEN IT WILL DELIVER A LONG-AWAITED JUDGMENT IN THE CASE
OF SWAPO (SOUTH WEST AFRICA PEOPLES ORGANIZATION) SECRETARY
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FOR INFORMATION, ANDREAS SHIPANGA WHO IS REPORTED TO BE IN
"PROTECTIVE CUSTODY" IN TANZANIA.

SHIPANGA WAS TRANSFERRED FROM ZAMBIAN TO TANZANIAN CUSTODY
IN LATE 1976 AFTER THE ZAMBIAN SUPREME COURT RULED THAT
HE WAS BEING ILLEGALLY DETAINED.

THE COURT ORDERED THE STATE TO BRING MR. SHIPANGA BACK
FROM TANZANIA, AND SET OCTOBER 5, 1976 AS THE DATE THE
STATE MUST COMPLY WITH THE ORDER.

BUT WHEN THE CASE RESUMED ON OCTOBER 5, 1976, THE STATE
REPORTED THAT SWAPO HAD REFUSED TO RELEASE MR. SHIPANGA
ON GROUNDS THAT BRINGING HIM BACK TO ZAMBIA WOULD NOT BE
IN THE INTEREST OF SWAPO AND THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN
NAMIBIA.

ITEM USIS LUSAKA.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Subject: MEDIA REACTION THE BLACK NATIONALIST ALLIANCE, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, CLAIMS HERE THAT ITS FORCES AND THOSE OF RHODESIAN PRIME MINIS
TAGS: SOPN, PINT, SWAPO
To: USIA
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